tribal areas of Gujarat is under Government's consideration;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the aforesaid scheme is likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI PATEL): (a) to (c) The details of a scheme of Assured Emplo y-ment in the revamped Public Distribution Sys-tem (PDS) Blocks throughout the country including Gujarat are being worked out by the Government. The tribal areas are a part of the revamped PDS Blocks and the scheme is likely to benefit the youths in these areas The scheme is likely to be implemented during the current year.

Setting up Cold Storage in Madhya Pradesh

4369. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have approved the proposal of the government of Madhya Pradesh for setting up of cold storage in the State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI PATEL): *(a)* and (b) At present, there is no proposal pending with the Government of India for setting up of cold storage units in Madhya Pradesh. However, the National Cooperative Develop- ment Corporation has provided financial assis-tance of Rs. 4.60 crores for establishment of 15 Cooperative Cold Storages in the State with total capacity of 63,750 tonne upto 31-3-1993.

Construction of Link Roads in U. P.

4370. DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Government propose to set-up the Schemes relating to the construction of link road* in the rural areas of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI PATEL): (a) to (c) The construction of rural roads is a part of Minimum Needs Programme (MNP) in the state sector and funds for this programme are provided in the State Plan/Budget.

Proper Utilization of JRY Funds

4371. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of a newsitem in the Indian Express captioned 'JRY makes cottage industry of graft' dated 22-7-93;

(b) whether Government are aware that the JRY scheme is not being properly utilised all over the country;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the attention of the Ministry of Rural Development has been drawn to such graft for the past two years;

(d) whether any punitive action has been advised by Government of India against Sar-panches and Mukhias who are responsible; and

(e) the details of the directions sent in this matter to State Governments ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) A few complaints have been received by Government of India regarding misuse/mis-appropriation of JRY funds by Sar- panches, Mukhias and others involved in the execution of JRY works. It will not however be correct to say that JRY is not being properly utilised all over the country.

(d) and (e) Jawahar Rozgar Yojana is a decen- tralised programme of Rural Employment implemented by over 450 Districts Rural Development Agencies (DRDA)/Zilla Paiishad (ZP) and 2,20,000 Gram Panchayats. In view of the large number of agencies planning and implementing the programme, safeguards ave been provided under the JRY manual to ensure that funds are properly utilised for the purpose for which they are allotted. In addition, direc- tions have been given to the State Governments, DRDAs/ZPs and village Panchayats in regard to the system of checks and balances to be followed under JRY to minimise the mis- appropriation/mis-utilisation of JRY funds. The account of DRDAs/ZPs/Village Pan-chayats are subjected to a regular audit. The

release of second instalment of funds under JRY to any distinct is made only after the audit report for the year before the previous year is submitted to the Government of India.

The State Governments, have also been directed to draw up a programme of inspection of JRY works by senior officers, from the State/ District/Block Level who are required to inspect the works in the village/district at a frequency decided by the State Level Coordination Committee and take necessary action not only to improve the quality of work but also to punish those responsible for any irregularity. Directions have also been given to the Project Diretlors, DRDAs, during the annual workshops, to deal firmly with the cases of mis-appropriation, embezzlement of funds etc.

Whenever complaints of mis-utilisation of JRY funds are received, they are referred to the State Government for investigation & appropriate action, under intimation to the Government of India.

Drinking water supply projects submitted by A. P. Government

4372. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the drinking water supply projects proposals submitted by Government of Andhra Pradesh which are presently pending with Ministry of Rural Development;

(b) whether their respective Project Reports were sent by Government of Andhra Pradesh for sanction; and

(c) tentative date of approval are sanction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI PATEL): (a) One project for providing drinking water to certain pollution affected villages in Medak district of Andhra Pradesh is pending with the Ministry of Rural Development. Seven projects were returned to the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for certain technical clarifications.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Medak project with the revised project cost of Rs. 160 lakhs is under technical scrutiny in consultation with the Ministry of Environment and Forests. The decision of the Central Government is likely to be conveyed to Ihe State Government within a period of three months.

Proposal for rural link roads under J. R. Y.

4373. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh have submitted a project proposal for Rural Link Roads under J. R. Y. with a outlay of Rs. 193 crores;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Special Project for construction of rural roads has been received from the Stale Government of Andhra Pradesh with an estimated cost of Rs. 193.00 crores spread over a period of two years. It has been proposed to pro
. vide communication facilities to 4206 villages generating 526.36 lakh mandays of employment during the project period.

(c) The proposal is under examination in this Ministry.

Discrimination against women

4374. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there exists discrimination against women under the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana in Violation of the guidelines of equal remuneration for men and 'women; and

(b) if so, the States where the Centre has intervened for taking corrective measures as laid down in the guidelines and the outcome of that intervention?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b) No Sir. Specific provision has been made under JRY guidelines to pay equal remuneration to men and women workers for the same work or works of a similar nature. So far, it has come to the notice of the Centre Government that Kerala Govt, was discriminating in the payment of wages to male and female workers under JRY. They were paying Rs. 27 to male workers and Rs. 23 to female workers for the sane type of work. The matter was taken up